

REMARKS

The Office Action dated August 22, 2003 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claim 1-6 and Figures 1-4 of the present Application have been amended. Upon entry of this Response, claims 1-6 will be pending. Claims 1 and 5 are independent claims. The amendments made to claims 1-6 have been made exclusively for the purposes of clarity and have not been made in view of any prior art.

Objection to the Drawings:

The drawings of the present Application have been objected to under M.P.E.P. §608.02(g) because it is alleged that Figures 1-4 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art--. The attached replacement Figures 1-4 directly address the Examiner's comments and render the objection under M.P.E.P. §608.02(g) moot. At least in view of the above remarks and attached replacement figures, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection under M.P.E.P. §608.02(g) is respectfully requested.

Objection to Claims 1 and 5 due to Informalities:

Claims 1 and 5 have been objected to for allegedly containing various informalities. The amendments made to claims 1 and 5 directly address the Examiner's comments and render the objection of claims 1 and 5 for alleged informalities moot. At

least in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claims 1 and 5 due to alleged informalities is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims 1-6 Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph:

Claims 1-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for allegedly being indefinite and for allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The amendments to claims 1-6 directly address most of the Examiner's comments and render the rejection of claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, moot. However, Applicant respectfully points out that line 9 of the non-amended version of claim 1 provided antecedent basis for the phrase "the limit value" found on line 13. Hence, "the limit value" was not amended on line 13 of the non-amended version of claim 1.

At least in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims 1-6 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(a):

Claims 1-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by what has been referred to in the Office Action as the Admitted Prior Art (APA), which includes Figures 1-4 and pages 1-3 of the Specification of the present Application. Though Applicant notes that pages 1-3 of the Specification have only been

acknowledged to be "Technical Background", for the sake of clarity, the subject matter found on pages 1-3 of the Specification will be referred to herebelow as the APA. The above rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites a method for controlling a phase locked loop during a change of synchronisation source. The method recited in claim 1 includes a step wherein a synchronisation signal is changed from a first synchronisation to a second synchronisation signal. The method also recites a step wherein a phase difference between the second synchronisation signal and a signal formed from a phase lock's oscillator is measured. The method further recites a step wherein the phase difference between the second synchronisation signal and the signal formed from the phase lock's oscillator is changed, if a measured phase difference is greater than a predetermined limit value, whereupon the phase difference between the second synchronisation signal and the signal formed from the phase lock's oscillator is again measured. In addition, the method of claim 1 recites a step wherein the phase locked loop's normal adjustment function is started when the measured phase difference is less than or equal to a limit value. Also according to the method recited in claim 1, in response to a finding that the phase difference is less than or equal to the limit value, the measured phase difference is set as a setting value for the phase difference for the normal adjustment function of the phase locked loop, whereupon the adjustment function is started.

Claim 5 recites a digital phase lock arrangement. According to claim 5, the arrangement includes selection components for selecting a desired synchronisation source

from a set of at least two different synchronisation sources. The arrangement also includes a phase comparator, which has a first and a second input and which is used for generating an output signal dependent on a phase difference between signals supplied to the inputs. In addition, the arrangement also includes controllers for forming a control word in response to an output signal which is dependent on the phase difference. Further, the arrangement includes an oscillator which is controlled with the aid of the control word. According to claim 5, the controllers also include setting components for setting a measured phase difference as a setting value for a normal adjustment function of a phase lock.

The APA discloses a “typical state-of-the-art phase lock” (page 2, lines 25-26). The APA also discloses that the “selected setting value is an average SETM” (page 2, line 35).

However, the APA fails to disclose or suggest at least that the “measured phase difference is set as a setting value”, as recited in claim 1. The APA also fails to disclose or suggest at least “setting components for setting a measured phase difference as a setting value”, as recited in claim 5.

As shown above, the APA discusses an “average” value while claims 1 and 5 recite “measured” values. Further, the selected setting value disclosed in the APA is an average of the phase meter (SETM). On the other hand, according to certain embodiments of the present invention, the selected setting value is the measured phase

difference (SETC). Therefore, at least for this reason, the APA fails to disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claims 1 and 5.

In addition, Applicant points out that certain embodiments of the method recited in claim 1 and of the arrangement recited in claim 5, instead of relying on the use of a fixed setting value of the phase difference, instead make use of a synchronization signal-specific measurement value of the phase difference. According to certain embodiments of the present invention, the change of setting value takes place in the exchange mode of the synchronization source, particularly when it is noticed that the phase difference is sufficiently close to a certain fixed value. At least for this reason, the change of synchronization signal will not cause any phase transfer in the output signal of the phase lock. *not claimed*

At least because, as shown above, the APA fails to disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claims 1 and 5, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 5 are patentable over the APA. Hence, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) over the APA is earnestly solicited.

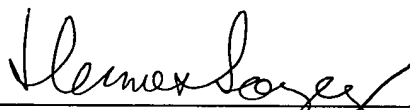
Claims 2-4 and 6 depend either directly or indirectly upon either claim 1 or 5 and thereby inherit all of the patentable distinctions thereof. Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-4 and 6 are patentable over the APA at least for the reasons discussed above in connection with claims 1 and 5. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) over the APA is earnestly solicited.

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the comments included in the above-referenced Office Action have been addressed and that all of the objections and rejections included therein have been overcome, thereby placing all claims currently pending in the present Application in condition for allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that claims 1-6 be allowed, and that this Application be passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the Applicant's undersigned representative at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: Replacement Drawing Sheets